

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of Southern California Edison
Company (U 338-E) Regarding the Future
Disposition of the Mohave Generating Plant.

Application 02-05-046
(Filed May 17, 2002)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING
SCHEDULING SECOND PREHEARING CONFERENCE FOR MAY 23, 2003,
AT 10 AM AND DIRECTING THE PARTIES TO MEET AND CONFER
IN ADVANCE OF THE PREHEARING CCONFERENCE**

Summary

This Administrative Law Judge's (ALJ) Ruling schedules a second Prehearing Conference (PHC) for May 23, 2003, at 10 a.m. in the Commission Courtroom, 505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, California, and directs the parties to meet and confer in advance of the PHC.

Background

On January 7, 2003, Commissioner Lynch, the Assigned Commissioner, issued a Scoping Memorandum setting forth the scope of this proceeding and the issues to be addressed, along with a preliminary schedule for the filing of supplemental testimony by Southern California Edison Company (Edison) on January 30, 2003, and by the Intervenor on March 28, 2003¹. The testimony filed by Edison on January 30, 2003, indicated a change in the focus of Edison's

¹ The scoping memo initially schedules intervenor testimony for February 27, 2003, but that date was extended until March 28, 2003, by ruling dated February 21, 2003.

application. Edison's initial application, filed May 17, 2002, requested Commission authorization to either 1) recognize that Mojave Generating Plant (Mohave) will no longer function as a coal-fired plant after the end of 2005 and establish the appropriate balancing accounts, or 2) authorize Edison to spend up to \$58 million in 2003 on the pollution controls and related capital expenses necessary to allow the facility to continue as a coal-fired plant. Edison indicated in the May 2002 application that it was actively involved in negotiations for a continued supply of coal and water, but unless those critical issues were resolved, it could not continue as a coal-fired plant post 2005.

In its January 30, 2003 testimony Edison informed the Commission that negotiation on the coal and water issues were stalled, and realistically Edison needs to plan for the decommissioning and closure of the Mohave facility. Edison therefore seeks Commission approval for the establishment of balancing accounts for a systematic closure of the plant.

Numerous other parties, however, are advocating other solutions to the Mohave facility.

Revised and Rebuttal Testimony

In addition to the testimony served by Edison and the other parties, on January 30 and March 28, 2003, respectively, parties requested the opportunity to serve revised testimony, and concurrent rebuttal testimony. All testimony is to be served by May 16, 2003.

Second PHC

An initial PHC was held on October 11, 2002, in Tuba City, Arizona. Since that time the parties have served numerous rounds of testimony. It is evident from the testimony that the Commission needs to consider numerous options and proposals presented by the parties before it can render a final decision on the

Mohave facility. Therefore, a second PHC is scheduled to discuss and frame the issues that are before the Commission, to examine what topics would benefit from evidentiary hearings, to propose a tentative schedule for hearings, and to determine if an interim decision is needed pending a final decision on Edison's application.

A second PHC is scheduled for Friday, May 23, 2003, at 10 a.m. in the Commission courtroom, 505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, California.

PHC Meet and Confer

The parties are directed to meet and confer² in advance of the May 23, 2003, PHC for the purpose of discussing the following:

1. Are evidentiary hearings necessary in this proceeding, or can the Commission render a decision on the testimony already served plus closing briefs?
2. If evidentiary hearings are necessary in this proceeding, what topics, if any, would benefit from such hearings?
3. If evidentiary hearings are warranted, a time estimate and suggested procedural and hearing schedule for the hearings?
4. Should the Commission issue an interim decision, and if so, on what topics?
5. Does the Commission have before it sufficient information on the costs of obtaining water and coal; including substitute water, and if not, when can that information be provided?
6. If the Mohave facility is decommissioned, does the Commission have before it a thorough analysis of all of the costs associated with such a closure, and if not, when can that information be provided?

² The parties may meet and confer telephonically, in person, or via e-mail.

IT IS RULED that:

1. A second Prehearing Conference (PHC) is scheduled for Friday, May 23, 2003, at 10 a.m. in the Commission Courtroom, 505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, California.

2. Parties are directed to meet and confer in advance of the PHC to discuss the topics set forth above.

Dated May 6, 2003, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ CAROL BROWN

Carol Brown
Administrative Law Judge

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have by mail, and by electronic mail, to the parties to which an electronic mail address has been provided, this day served a true copy of the original attached Administrative Law Judge's Ruling Scheduling Second Prehearing Conference (PHC) For May 23, 2003 At 10 a.m., And Directing The Parties To Meet And Confer In Advance Of The PHC on all parties of record in this proceeding or their attorneys of record.

Dated May 6, 2003, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ CLAIRE JOHNSON
Claire Johnson

N O T I C E

Parties should notify the Process Office, Public Utilities Commission, 505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 2000, San Francisco, CA 94102, of any change of address to insure that they continue to receive documents. You must indicate the proceeding number on the service list on which your name appears.

The Commission's policy is to schedule hearings (meetings, workshops, etc.) in locations that are accessible to people with disabilities. To verify that a particular location is accessible, call: Calendar Clerk (415) 703-1203.

If specialized accommodations for the disabled are needed, e.g., sign language interpreters, those making the arrangements must call the Public Advisor at

A.02-05-046 CAB/cgj

(415) 703-2074, TTY 1-866-836-7825 or (415) 703-5282 at least three working days in advance of the event.